

REMARKS

The specification has been revised to reflect the national stage status. The claims have also been amended to remove the multiple dependencies in order to remove improper multiple dependencies and to reduce the PTO filing fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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DESCRIPTION

Oil and Fat Originated from the Seeds of Cupuacu and Production
Processes and Uses Thereof

✓ 5 This application is a 371 of PCT/JP00/07039 filed October 10, 2000.
Technical Field

The present invention relates to the Cupuacu oil and fat
products including those health foods such as chocolate-like
cakes, and so on which contain an oil and fat made of Cupuacu
10 (*Cupuacu - Theobroma grandiflorum (Willderow ex Sprengel)*
Schumann).

Background Art

Cupuacu is the common name of the *Theobroma grandiflorum*
15 (*Willderow ex Sprengel*) *Schumann* and is a tropical plant of the
genus *Theobroma*, the family *Sterculiaceae*. This family
comprises about 50 genera and 750 species of trees (including
both trees and shrubs), almost all of them being tropical ones.
The genus *Theobroma* is divided into six sub-genera including
20 *Androretalum*, *Grossretalum*, *Oreanthos*, *Telmatocarpus* and
Theobroma and further classified into 22 species.

Cupuacu is a tree of sub-genus *Glossoretalum*, the species
Theobroma, growing naturally or being cultivated, although on
a very small scale, in the Amazon basin on the South American
25 Continent. The flesh of the fruit is mainly eaten as a foodstuff
by the original inhabitants there and, although on a small scale,
processed into juices, nectars, jellies, sherbets, ice-creams
and yogurts, and so on. This plant is one of the evergreen shrubs,
grows well in the shade, and, therefore, is suitable for

CLAIMS

1. A Cupuacu oil and fat composition comprising the Cupuacu oil and fat, and lecithin or/and cacao butter.
- 5 2. A health food of naturally occurring plant origin, comprising the Cupuacu oil and fat, and lecithin or/and Cacao butter.
3. A health food as claimed in claim 2, wherein the food is a chocolate-like cake.
4. A health food as claimed in claim 3, wherein the food is a
10 chocolate substitute.
- ✓ 5. (Amended) A health food as claimed in claim 2 ~~or 3~~, which includes, furthermore, more than one of the ingredients selected from a group consisting of sugar, powdered milk, palm oil, coconut oil and rape oil.
- ✓ 15 6. (Amended) A method for maintaining or promoting health characterized by not eating chocolate, but eating, instead, a health food as claimed in ~~any of claims~~ 2 to 5.
7. A method for manufacturing the Cupuacu oil and fat which comprises the following three steps: the first step of
20 fermenting Cupuacu seeds to get Cupuacu beans, the second step of roasting Cupuacu seeds, gathering the albumen by threshing the roasted seeds and then crushing the albumen to get crude Cupuacu oil and fat, and if desired, the third step of pressing the crude Cupuacu oil and fat to get purified
25 Cupuacu oil and fat.
8. A method for manufacturing the Cupuacu oil and fat which comprises the following three steps: the first step of fermenting Cupuacu seeds to get Cupuacu beans, the second step of treating Cupuacu beans with hot water or heated water

vapor, followed by making a cut in the shell and taking out the albumen through the cut (it), roasting the albumen and crushing the latter to get crude Cupuacu oil and fat, and if desired, the third step of pressing the crude Cupuacu oil and fat to get purified Cupuacu oil and fat.

✓ 9. (Amended) A health food containing the crude or purified Cupuacu oil and fat produced by the method as claimed in claim 7 ~~or 8~~, and lecithin or/and cacao butter.

10. A health food as claimed in claim 9 containing, in addition to the ingredients mentioned in claim 9, more than one of the ingredients selected from a group consisting of sugar, powdered milk, palm oil, coconut oil and rape oil.

✓ 11. (Amended) A health food as claimed in claims 9 ~~or 10~~, wherein, it is either a chocolate-like cake or a chocolate substitute.